

The Marshals

MONITOR



Autumn 2005

FALCON snatches 10,000 fugitives

From Maine to Miami and all points west, week-long operation sets records as deputies join forces with multi-level counterparts

The week of April 4-10 was not a good time to be a wanted felon.

The Marshals Service's first-ever national fugitive roundup hauled in 10,499 violent fugitives and cleared 14,085 warrants.

Operation FALCON — Federal And Local Cops Organized Nationally — teamed hundreds of deputy marshals with law enforcement officers from 959 federal, state, county and city agencies to go after some of the country's most dangerous wanted criminals.

"FALCON was officially the largest fugitive manhunt ever undertaken by any law enforcement agency in the United States," said

Assistant Director Robert Finan, Investigative Services Division.

The Marshals Service took a two-fold approach to this mission. First, it used its existing network of 83 district fugitive task forces and five regional fugitive task forces to work side by side with city officers, detectives, deputy sheriffs, state troopers and special agents to round up as many violent offenders as possible in one week. This army of fugitive investigators was supported internationally by three Marshals Service foreign field offices, Interpol and regional security officers from the Department of State.

Secondly, the agency supported National Crime Victims' Rights

Week [April 10-16], honoring crime victims by helping to clean up America's streets.

More than 70 percent of the criminals arrested during Operation FALCON had prior records for violent crimes.

These captured fugitives ran the

gamut. Michael Leahy, wanted in Illinois on child abduction and child pornography charges, was doggedly tracked overseas to Ireland and arrested in London. Maurice Volley, another FALCON capture, was wanted out of Virginia for allegedly kidnapping a victim, tying him to a tree and shooting him to death execution-style. Volley was nabbed in Richmond, Va.

Still another, a fugitive out of Mexico named Jose Alberto, was arrested in California for allegedly shooting one victim to death and killing another by strangulation — over a dispute involving female companions.

On average, the Marshals Service spent \$87 for each fugitive arrested and \$65 for each warrant cleared.

Western Oklahoma Chief Deputy Brad Miller, the FALCON commander, was proud of the can-do spirit within the agency.

"When the first e-mail went out, the chief deputies responded one after another that they were short of funds and deputies but they would give it their best shot," Miller said.

Ten thousand arrests later, and in typical deputy marshal fashion, their best was clearly good enough.

More photos on next two pages



Attorney General Gonzales, right, and former Director Reyna shared the podium for the national FALCON press conference.

Operation FALCON

Operational photographs by Dave Gatley/MAI



Interagency teamwork was the name of the game as FALCON compiled record-breaking arrest numbers.



FALCON team members, in a scene that deputy marshals know oh so well, prepare to capture yet another fugitive during the week-long dragnet.



A FALCON team member peers through a window in the hopes of catching a glimpse of a fugitive in hiding.

"This was an intense, concentrated effort. I am very pleased with this."

— Attorney General Gonzales



District of Columbia Supervisory Deputy Sean McLeod is poised and ready for action as his FALCON team gets set to make another capture.

The U.S. Marshals Service — America's Star since 1789.

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lease e-mail

Please e-mail story ideas and photographs to the editor at dave.sacks@usdoj.gov.

Operation FALCON



Deputy marshals and their counterparts brought down a fugitive who ran out of his shoes trying to flee their pursuit. Interagency cooperation paid enormous dividends.

“Criminals belong behind bars.
Because of Operation FALCON, our
communities are safer. This was law
enforcement at its best.”
— former Director Reyna



Chris Dudley, left, chief of the Investigative Services Division's Domestic Investigations Unit, speaks with CNN's Terry Frieden, right, following the national FALCON press conference.



News coverage for the national FALCON press conference was substantial. It was also Attorney General Gonzales' first press conference. Across the country, FALCON garnered newspaper headlines plus national and local television and radio features.



Multiple agencies came together to make FALCON a success.



Greg Holmes of the New York/New Jersey Regional Fugitive Task Force tells a knock-knock joke — FALCON style.

Utah deputy triumphs in the Highland games

Jimmy Johnson makes his mark in his first year of competition

To say that Utah Deputy Jimmy Johnson had a good first season in the Scottish Highland games would be quite the understatement.

As a rookie participating in these age-old competitions, he set two world records and nine state records while amassing numerous medals and championship titles.

The modern Highland games, often called the most rigorous athletic competition in the world, have a colorful history. One writer has placed their beginning in the 11th century, when King Malcolm Canmore, concerned that it took too long for important news of the day to reach him in his Highland retreat, held a competition to find the strongest and healthiest runner in Scotland. The winner received a beautiful sword and a purse of gold — in addition to becoming the king's official messenger.

In subsequent competitions across Scotland, battle skills and various feats of strength were featured. Today, the games are played worldwide — from a novice level up to a professional circuit that is occasionally featured on ESPN2.

The sport features rugged events bearing such faraway names as the *caber toss* and the *Braemer stone throw*. The caber toss involves heaving a telephone pole-sized log end over end for maximum distance. The Braemer stone throw requires an athlete to hurl a 20-pound rock shot-put style — one-handed but without moving his front foot.

Some of these competitions



Up and over. Deputy Johnson heaves a 56-lb. steel bell directly over his head at a recent Highland games event. The bar is raised until there is only one competitor left.



attract a lot of sponsors, and winners receive cash prizes. But most are simply held for bragging rights among the athletes.

Of course, it doesn't much matter to the spectators. They are just amazed at the brute strength and athletic abilities of these men who heave truck tires through the air like frisbees and toss around rocks that most people cannot even lift.

Johnson, a deputy marshal since 2003, is two-thirds Scottish. Watching the Highland games on television piqued his curiosity, but it wasn't until the Marshals Service assigned him to Salt Lake City that he actually gave them a try.

Johnson became a member of the Western States Scottish Athletes (WSSA), and his competitors quickly learned that he's a natural. In his very first meet last year, Johnson won

four gold medals, three silvers and a bronze — after practicing just one time.

Building on that incredible start, the deputy dedicated himself to learning the fundamentals and improving his techniques. He went on to participate in five more meets in 2004, and he steadily moved up in the rankings.

After the second meet, he won the novice class championship, which placed him 22nd in the nationwide standings and advanced him to the C Class.

Two successful meets later, Johnson became champion of that class. This bumped him up one notch to the B Class — one level shy of professional status. That is where he ended the season.

Another highlight from Johnson's rookie year came in his debut at the WSSA Utah Strong Man Competition. There, he

Continued on next page

Scottish power

Continued from previous page

broke two world records on his way to becoming the Class B Strong Man champion.

His world records came in the *stone for height* event and the *backwards wheel toss* event.

With all his rookie year success, though, came some ribbing from his fellow competitors — most of whom couldn't believe he performed so well.

"I took a lot of guff the first year as the older guys saw me as the new kid on the block," Johnson said. "But we're all friends now."

During the Highland games competitions, Johnson competes in 10 standard events and several supplemental events when they are offered. Although, these so-called standard events are anything *but*. In one of them, competitors use pitchforks to chuck 16-pound burlap bags filled with ropes over a high-jump bar of increasing heights. And in another event, competitors swing a 56-pound ball-and-chain around like a lasso before winging it as far as they can.

"There are lot of specialized skills that go along with these different events," Johnson said.

Specialized skills, to be sure, but there's a lot of raw power involved, too.

And for all the thrill of the competition and the camaraderie among the athletes, there is still another reason why Johnson competes in the Highland games and the strong man contests.

"Being a part of all this really lets me focus on something

different outside of work," said Johnson, who maintains a full-time workload as a deputy marshal. "It also gives me an additional goal to get myself into the gym to stay fit and stay strong."

During the winter months, when there are no competitions, Johnson trains as best he can. While he doesn't have his own facility for throwing cabers and

truck tires and steel bells and the like, he does hit the weights hard during his gym workouts.

His goal this season is to advance to the A Class and keep that medal collection of his growing.

Oh, and he said there's one other thing.

"I think it would be pretty cool to represent the Marshals Service on ESPN2."



Caber toss. A blend of skill and strength is needed to achieve winning distances in this event. Cabers are typically 16 feet long and weigh 105 pounds.

America's Star shines for wounded Marines

The District of Columbia Superior Court recently led a small delegation of Marshals Service employees on a visit to the National Naval Medical Center (Bethesda Naval Hospital) in Maryland to honor many of the wounded U.S. Marines who are recovering there.

The trip was organized by Supervisory Deputy Paul Rivers and headed by Marshal Steve Conboy. Also attending were Investigative Operations Chief Mike Earp of the Investigative Services Division and Karen Ramey of the Employee Assistance Program.

Deputy Rivers, a former Marine who spent 60 days in a hospital in 1983 after being buried under extensive rubble during fighting in Lebanon, remembers how much his spirits were lifted whenever someone came to visit him during his recovery. So he came up with the idea to visit the injured Marines in Bethesda several months ago, and this was his third such visit.

Marshal Conboy, also a former Marine, has wholeheartedly supported Rivers' efforts and has taken part in each of the visits.

The previous visits were decidedly low-key in order to keep the focus on the Marines rather than the Marshals Service, and this one was no different.

As the Marshals Service representatives moved from room to room, they expressed their deep gratitude to the patients for the sacrifices they made.

Earp, whose son is currently a Marine instructor, gave out special Marshals Service coins.

He told several of the wounded

men, "The things you do allow us to do the things we do."

Said Conboy to a number of the Marines, "You are among family. The ranks of the Marshals Service are filled with former Marines."

Rivers inspired the injured men with his straightforward motivational words.

"You always have the respect and admiration of the Marshals Service," he said. "We thank you for what you did for our freedom. We're proud of you for the sacrifices you made."

Deputy Rivers also encouraged them with hope for the future.

"You will overcome," he said. "And we pray that God shows you the way because He has a new purpose for your life now."

The Marines in those hospital rooms faced the realities of their injuries with their trademark stiff upper lip. Yet, to visitors getting a small glimpse of the carnage of war, it wasn't difficult to see just how much the Marines had sacrificed and how much they now suffer.

One Marine had lost his leg and another had enormous black stitches holding his upper body together from shoulder to shoulder. There was one Marine whose leg was covered with scars from an IED (improvised explosive device) and another who was now forced to live with the mental anguish of being the only person from his entire unit to survive a bombing.

And these are just a few examples.

Perhaps there is no easy way to say "thank you" to such men who have given so much of themselves in combat. But the

words of encouragement and appreciation from the Marshals Service — plus the hearty handshakes, hugs, coins and certificates that were given — went a long way toward letting those injured Marines know that an agency and a country is grateful for what they did.

On the car ride back to headquarters, Ramey pondered future possibilities.

Noting that many of the Marines were interested in becoming deputy marshals, she said, "The best thing to come of this is if one of these men recover enough to become a member of our agency."



Superior Court Supervisory Deputy Paul Rivers was severely wounded in October 1983 when the Hezbollah terrorist organization orchestrated a suicide bombing at the U.S. Marine barracks in Beirut. In that attack, 241 Americans were killed. Rivers, a Marine corporal at the time who was no stranger to enemy fire, was buried under rubble for several hours after the blast before he was rescued. The photograph shows him aboard the USS Iwo Jima, located off the coast of Lebanon. Vice President George Bush is holding Rivers' Purple Heart.



2005 Director's Honorary Awards Ceremony

On April 20, the Marshals Service held its 24th annual Director's Honorary Awards Ceremony. The event, held this year at the Crystal Gateway Marriott Hotel in Arlington, Va., recognized the employees of the Marshals Service who truly shined in 2004.

Robert Forsyth Valor Award

The **Robert Forsyth Valor Award** is given to the employee who has demonstrated unusual courage, good judgment and competence in a hostile situation. It also can be given to an employee who performed an act or service which saved the life of another person while endangering his/her own life. In 1794, Marshal Robert Forsyth was shot, becoming the first marshal — and just the second American law enforcement officer — killed in the line of duty.

When Eastern Texas Deputy **Matthew Charske** heard gunshots across the street from the Sherman, Texas, federal courthouse on Oct. 19, 2004, he and several other Marshals Service employees immediately responded. Local officers had attempted to serve a capital murder warrant but were fired upon by their suspect, who was holed up in his apartment. One of the officers was struck by two rifle bullets. Deputy

Charske ran to render aid to the bleeding officer, without thought of his own safety. He enlisted the help of Deputy Kenny Abel, and the two men pulled the wounded officer to safety. While waiting for the ambulance to arrive on the scene, Charske continued to provide aid and comfort to the victim. Then, for the next seven hours, Charske assisted emergency response teams in apprehending the barricaded suspect.

Citizen of the Year Award

The **Citizen of the Year Award** honors an individual who performed a special act of cooperation or assistance for the Marshals Service.



11-year-old **Matthew Dixon** may have a future in law enforcement. On Oct. 14, 2004, he was hunting with a friend and the friend's father in a remote area of eastern Oregon called McDowell Creek. Dixon became suspicious when he and his companions crossed paths with Jeffrey Eggiman, 38, and Tanner Kahn, 11. Dixon spotted a handgun partially covered by a red handkerchief behind Eggiman's back, so he made a mental

note of Eggiman's truck, license plate and clothing. Later that night, Dixon heard the Amber Alert call on the local television news announcing Kahn's status as a missing child so he informed his mother of his earlier encounter. His information was given to authorities. Shortly after midnight on Oct. 15, deputy sheriffs located Eggiman. Gunfire was exchanged and Eggiman was killed, but Kahn was unhurt.

Attorney General Gonzales applauds Matthew Dixon for the alert actions he took in Oregon. Dixon's information about a kidnapper possibly saved a young victim's life.

Fitness In Total Award

The **Fitness In Total (FIT) Award** is presented to the employee who is dedicated to the FIT Program as a way of life and who motivates colleagues to participate in fitness activities.

In 2002, Eastern Pennsylvania Senior Inspector **John Muffler**'s blood levels showed an iron content that was 18 times the normal limit. He suffered from extreme fatigue and it was difficult for him to maintain his typically active lifestyle. He was diagnosed with hemochromatosis — a genetic disorder — and doctors later found a benign brain tumor that was causing his testosterone level

to plummet. But thanks to treatment for his tumor and monthly bloodletting for the hemochromatosis — plus a healthy dose of determination — Muffler soon regained his strength. Now he encourages colleagues to join him in the Philadelphia Law Enforcement Run and he coaches his son's T-ball and soccer teams. A model of determination, he also serves as a district fitness coordinator.

Director's Awards

Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award

The **Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award** is given to a local, state or federal officer who has made a significant contribution to the missions of the Marshals Service.

Agent **Joseph Gillespie** of the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole showed his courage and bravery while serving on the Eastern Pennsylvania Violent Crimes Fugitive Task Force in Philadelphia. On June 8, 2004, Gillespie, fellow parole agent Michael DeLuca and several other task force members went to the location where they believed fugitive Wilson Garcia was hiding. Garcia spotted them and fled, and DeLuca followed closely behind on foot. The other task force members followed on foot and in vehicles. DeLuca followed the fugitive down an alley but soon met with gunfire. He was hit and started bleeding badly. When fellow task

force members arrived, they rendered aid to DeLuca while still under fire from the fugitive. Seeing that his partner was being treated, Gillespie went after Garcia. When he saw Garcia scaling a wall, he ordered him to drop his weapon and come down. Garcia disobeyed and shot at Gillespie. The agent fired back and knocked Garcia to the ground. He reached for his weapon to fire again. Gillespie ordered him to drop his weapon but instead he raised his weapon to shoot again. The agent beat him to the trigger and killed him. After checking to see if Garcia was still alive, Gillespie returned to provide assistance to his partner.

"Seventeen deputy U.S. marshals ... faced bullets, bombs and hostile forces [in Iraq]. And their families sacrificed as well. Eight wives missed their anniversaries; six children missed having their dad at their birthday party; and one deputy missed the birth of his grandchild. But no one sacrificed more than John Vito, whose dad died while he was in Iraq but who chose to stay on and finish his tour. He felt that the best way to honor his dad [a career Navy man] was to honor his country and finish his mission."

— Attorney General Gonzales

Recognition of Marshals Service employees deployed to Iraq

Seventeen operational employees have completed tours of duty in Iraq. Assisting in America's war on terrorism, these men have investigated Iraqi war crimes and established security for the newly formed Iraqi courts. The first rotation included: Supervisory Inspector **Mike Cameron**, Special Operations Group (SOG); Supervisory Inspector **James Alandydy**, Operations Support Division; Inspector **Brian McKee**, Judicial Security Division; Southern California Deputy **Kenneth Lavigna**; Central California Deputy **Edward Flores**; Eastern Texas Deputy **Preston**

Browning; Inspector **Eric Kessel**, SOG; and Western Kentucky Deputy **Brian Parrish**. The second rotation included: Supervisory Inspector **Rodney Johnson**, SOG; Supervisory Inspector **Kurt Ellingson**, Investigative Services Division; District of Columbia Superior Court Deputy **John Waters**; Eastern California Deputy **Richard King**; Southern Florida Deputy **Scott Palumbo**; Eastern Texas Deputy **Robert Freeman**; Eastern Virginia Deputy **Edward Recor**; Southern Iowa Deputy **Jeff Mertes**; and Middle Florida Deputy **John Vito**.



Eric Kessel, left, Special Operations Group, helped establish the new Iraqi court system during Operation Iraqi Freedom.



John Vito, right, Middle Florida, completed his tour in honor of his dad, who died back home during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Director's Awards

Meritorious Service Award — Operational Employee

The **Meritorious Service Awards** are given to employees whose dedication greatly contributes to the accomplishments of the Marshals Service.

Retired Eastern New York Chief **William Zerillo** served the Marshals Service with distinction for more than 33 years. He was a chief deputy in three districts and marshal in Western Kentucky. He was involved in several historical events — including providing security at the Watergate scandal trial, protecting John Hinckley after he shot President Reagan and executing the court-ordered integration of female

cadets at The Citadel. After Sept. 11, 2001, Zerillo helped coordinate security at New York's LaGuardia and JFK Airports. He helped organize a sting operation in South Carolina that netted 500 fugitives and he also was instrumental in establishing the New York/New Jersey Regional Fugitive Task Force. In his career, he served as chief deputy for two districts that won District of the Year Awards.

Meritorious Service Award — Administrative Employee

Shirley Hartz has excelled at her work for the Marshals Service for more than 32 years. She has been the Northern Iowa administrative officer for the past 22 years, and in that time she has earned the respect of operational and administrative personnel. Due to her vigilant oversight, her district has never ended the fiscal year in a deficit. She tutors fellow administrative employees on matters involving the budget, seized assets and the criminal docket. Hartz

has consistently served as an example of integrity and professionalism. She deftly handles the myriad duties involved with the administration of high-threat trials, and she also expertly procures vehicles and pays witness expenses. She has performed administrative duties during some noteworthy trials, including Wounded Knee (American Indian Movement) in 1975 and the recent trial of Dustin Honken — the first death penalty case in Iowa since 1963.

Leadership Beyond the Standard Award

The **Leadership Beyond the Standard Award** recognizes a group of Marshals Service employees that sets the pace in a particular area of expertise.

Marshal **Peter Elliott** and the employees of **Northern Ohio** use their resources to the fullest as they carry out Marshals Service missions and increase the agency's visibility in the region. The district operates the Northern Ohio Violent Fugitive Task Force. During fiscal 2004, Northern Ohio closed more than 3,000 warrants — including 100 felons wanted for homicide, 94 for sexual offenses and 157 for weapons

offenses. The district has taken a proactive approach to catching fugitives, building upon its public service announcements with weekly segments on the local NBC affiliate's newscasts. Since November 2003, more than 70 fugitives have been profiled with a capture rate of nearly 70 percent. District employees also mentor young people through the Gang Resistance Education and Training Program.

EEO Award

The **Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Award** recognizes Marshals Service employees who have made special contributions to the recruitment, training and promotion of women and minorities.

Western Texas Chief **John Butler** is dedicated to EEO ideals and is a strong proponent of the Marshals Service's Centralized Student Career Experience Program (CSCEP) — a co-op program which prepares college students to

become deputy marshals. He actively recruits college students, stressing the need for more females and minorities. His hands-on approach ensures that the CSCEP participants are well prepared to become deputies.

Director's Awards

Distinguished Service Awards — Operational Employees

The **Distinguished Service Awards** recognize Marshals Service employees who have distinguished themselves from their peers through leadership, competence, skills or performance — while contributing to agency goals.



As the administrative officer for Western Louisiana, Betty Bienert has done much to make her district more efficient.

Nevada Deputy **Dave Diliberti** has greatly enhanced the financial surveillance capabilities within his district and the agency as a whole. After joining the International Association of Financial Crimes Investigators, he developed standard operating procedures for deputy marshals as well as a training course in financial surveillance techniques. The guidelines he instituted are now common practices within the agency, and he helped create the Financial Surveillance Unit Pilot Program in April 2004 — which was vital in closing nearly 200 cases in fiscal 2004. His techniques have proven invaluable in numerous cases involving homicides, missing persons, abducted children and other high-profile investigations. Diliberti's willingness to share his expertise with law enforcement officers and congressional representatives has advanced the Marshals Service's professional image.

Minnesota Deputy **Sean McCaffrey** has earned a reputation as a terrorism expert since joining the Minnesota Joint Terrorism Task Force as an original member. He is sought after by fellow task force members and other federal law enforcement agencies to assist in their terrorism investigations. He has developed confidential sources that are widely considered to be among the most valuable of all information sources in the war on terror, and his work has led to arrests in major and international cases. McCaffrey's skills also have been instrumental when districts assess threats and investigate suspicious activities. He coordinated the intake and transfer of two al Qaeda subjects into Marshals Service custody. He also served on a 90-day detail in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, where he was part of a team that obtained intelligence information and then determined its worth.

Distinguished Service Awards — Administrative Employees

Betty Bienert, Western Louisiana administrative officer, is described as accurate, precise and efficient. She has developed numerous processes and procedures that may be incorporated into agency-wide practices. These include her procurement master log, procurement small purchase log, master travel/training log, court security officer master time data base, prisoner medical data base and her payroll data base. Bienert has supported several headquarters initiatives, such as program reviews and administrative hiring processes. Her efforts have encouraged other employees to develop their skills to the fullest.

Steve Moody, Western Arkansas administrative officer, has been in his position for just over two years, and in that time he has streamlined the district's administrative procedures. Through his resourcefulness, he has revamped procedures for rural development foreclosure sales (Department of Agriculture), which resulted in increased revenues for the Marshals Service. He worked closely with the U.S. attorney and the Department of Agriculture to develop new procedures for collecting and adjusting court orders of distribution. Thanks to his innovation, the district earns commissions on sales and also collects reimbursements for deputies' time and mileage.

"Little by little, success after success, you've proven you are ready for the additional challenges and growth you now face. In the coming years, the Marshals Service faces many new challenges. Our nation will continue to rely on you to ensure that the American people live in greater safety."

— Attorney General Gonzales

Director's Awards

Harry Belluomini Court Security Officer of the Year Award

The **Harry Belluomini Court Security Officer (CSO) of the Year Award** recognizes court security officers who have projected a positive and professional image of the Marshals Service to the courts and general public. Northern Illinois CSO Harry Belluomini was killed in the line of duty in 1992.

On June 21, 2004, Southern Texas CSO **Adrian Perez** showed his mettle in a dangerous situation. At lunch time, Walter Kloesel parked his vehicle in front of the federal courthouse in Corpus Christi, Texas, and opened fire with his shotgun. He aimed two rounds toward the courthouse bay and then sent two rounds toward the front of the building. The Marshals Service command

center alerted the CSOs and deputy marshals to the situation, and Perez was the first to respond. When Kloesel stopped to reload, the CSO pounced on him. He put him on the ground and took away his gun. Then, other CSOs and deputy marshals arrived on the scene. They took Kloesel into custody. Nobody was hurt during the shooting spree or the arrest.

"Those of us in the justice community continue to have high regard for the protection provided by the U.S. Marshals Service, and I believe our entire nation now [after the murders of Judge Joan Lefkow's family members in Chicago] has a greater appreciation for your role in protecting the lawful execution of justice."

— Attorney General Gonzales



Southern Texas CSO Adrian Perez showed calm under fire when he halted a courthouse rampage in Corpus Christi.

The **Special Achievement Awards** honor those Marshals Service employees who have made significant contributions to the agency during 2004.

Alex Chiu, supervisory computer specialist with the Information Technology Division, is serving on a detail with the Investigative Services Division. Under his leadership, the new Financial and Case Information System (FCIS) has become a major Marshals Service asset. The FCIS is vital to the agency, but prior to Chiu's arrival, the project was mired in cost overruns, missed deadlines and contractor issues. His technical skills, managerial expertise and contractor oversight have made the difference. With minimal assistance, he addressed all of the technical issues despite short deadlines. Through his efforts, the FCIS has become another valuable tool in the Marshals Service tool box.

Nebraska Chief Deputy **John Cleveland** has been an asset to the Marshals Service in each of his positions within the agency. He demonstrated outstanding leadership skills when he served as both chief and acting marshal in Nebraska from 1997-2002. His hard work and diligence during that period allowed the district to obtain sufficient jail beds to accommodate an unprecedented increase in prisoners. He coordinated the construction of the Roman Hruska U.S. Courthouse in 2001 and subsequently coordinated the move into the new building. His prior assignment at headquarters helped enhance the professionalism of one of the agency's most sensitive operational programs.

Director's Awards

Special Achievement Awards, cont.

The **Special Achievement Awards** honor those Marshals Service employees who have made significant contributions to the agency during 2004.



Inspector Kevin Engel led a team of New York/New Jersey Regional Fugitive Task Force members into a motel room to capture murderer Edward Mathis.



Utah Supervisory Deputy James Phelps has earned a reputation as one of the very best of all federal fugitive investigators. In addition to his warrants work, he now supervises court operations in his district, and he recently rescued a 20-year-old man whose truck, garage and house had caught on fire.

Inspector **Kevin Engel**, New York/New Jersey Regional Fugitive Task Force, faced one of the most hazardous situations a law enforcement officer can encounter. Engel and other members of the task force had searched high and low for fugitive Edward Mathis, a violent drug trafficker who was on the run for six years after allegedly killing a husband and wife in front of their children and leaving a toddler bound and duct-taped in a closet. The task force eventually tracked him to a motel room in Redford, Mich. There, Engel took the lead position and entered Mathis' room ahead of the arrest team. The suspect aimed his gun at Engel, but before he could fire, the inspector shot him dead — saving his own life and the lives of the other task force members.

Eastern North Carolina Deputy **Tex Lindsey** stared death in the face on May 24, 2004. After being contacted by the Raleigh (N.C.) Police Department for help, he led members of his district's Violent Fugitive Task Force on a search for Charles Kearney. The fugitive allegedly raped a woman at gun point earlier that day before trying to shoot his wife and set fire to her home. Just before midnight, Lindsey and his fellow task force members located Kearney driving in his vehicle. Lindsey established a roadblock. When Kearney stopped his car, Lindsey saw a sawed-off rifle in the front seat. The deputy ordered the others to take cover, and when he approached Kearney to get the rifle, the fugitive picked it up and aimed it at him. Lindsey and two task force members fired on him, and Kearney died a short time later.

Chief Inspector **Jerry Lowery**, Investigative Services Division, continues a diverse and invaluable operational career with the Marshals Service. He began as a deputy marshal in 1971 and joined the Special Operation Group (SOG) the following year. With SOG, he served as team leader, squad leader and task force commander. He was a major contributor to the Gunsmoke, Sunrise and Trident fugitive operations. A certified pilot, he has flown 2,000 surveillance hours in search of fugitives.

He joined the Marshals Service's Technical Operations Group (TOG) in 2000 and he oversaw the formation of its Air Surveillance Operations. He also wrote the TOG air operations manual.

Southern New York Deputy Marshals **Matthew Parker** and **Patrick Sugrue** showed that the Marshals Service can have an important impact on the war on terrorism. They have been assigned to the Federal Bureau of Investigation/New York Police Department Joint Terrorism Task Force since Sept. 11, 2001. They developed sources in the Middle Eastern community and have investigated foreign nationals attempting to obtain fraudulent documentation. In August 2002, the two deputies initiated a 16-month undercover probe of employees at the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles. They uncovered a number of employees issuing unauthorized and false driver's licences and identification cards for money. Ten corrupt employees were arrested, and now the state reviews all identification applications for fraud.

During Utah Supervisory Deputy **James Phelps'** 12-year career, several agencies have awarded him citations for helping them catch their fugitives. After joining the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Violent Crimes Task Force and showing what he can do, he was selected to lead the unit. The experience he gleaned from that assignment led him to create the Joint Criminal Apprehension Team — a cooperative effort between the Marshals Service and the Salt Lake County (Utah) Sheriff's Office.

Contract specialist **Sheryl Pierce**, Judicial Security Division, supports the Justice Prisoner and Alien Transportation System by acquiring short-term aircraft leases for three different facilities. The three leases which she negotiated and subsequently awarded were valued at more than \$40 million. While performing this function, she also oversaw \$400 million in judicial security contracts for the 7th, 9th and 11th judicial circuits. In addition, she handled the Service Contract Act wage adjustments, which involved working closely with contractors and the Labor Department.

Director's Awards

Distinguished Group Awards

The **Distinguished Group Awards** are given to teams of individuals that have carried out specific missions in an exemplary manner while bringing positive attention to the Marshals Service.



Flanked between the attorney general and the director is Northern Florida Marshal Dennis Williamson, second from left, and Northern Florida Supervisory Deputy Tom Miller — both of whom represented their district's Hurricane Ivan Response Team.

The **Justice Prisoner and Alien Transportation System (JPATS)** is “Con Air” in real life — only without the Hollywood touches. JPATS safely transports nearly 300,000 prisoners and detainees each year through a network of Bureau of Prisons buses, Marshals Service vans, JPATS planes, air charters and commercial airlines. Since its inception in 1995, JPATS has transported more than 2.3 million prisoners, inmates and illegal aliens — all without any serious incidents or escapes. Each day, JPATS receives an average of 800 transportation requests.

The **Nebraska administrative staff** plays an integral part in the district's successes. The number of operational employees in Nebraska has increased but the administrative staff has been cut 16 percent. Nebraska's workload presently exceeds that of at least four of the Marshals Service's largest districts, yet the administrative employees continue to get the job done.

The Northern Florida deputy marshals who made up the **Hurricane Ivan Response Team** placed the needs of their community in front of their own when Ivan ravaged through the Florida

panhandle on Sept. 15, 2004. The storm tore the roof off of the Santa Rosa County (Fla.) Jail, and the deputies rushed to relocate 94 federal inmates who were housed there. In addition, the response team had to move 15 federal prisoners from the Escambia County (Fla.) Sheriff's Office because its jail had no power or water. The logistical challenges were immense. The deputies also addressed the damage to the federal courthouse and supported search/rescue efforts and security patrols.

For seven hours on Oct. 19, 2004, members of **Eastern Texas' Sherman Office** bravely kept the peace during a very tense situation. At 1:30 that afternoon, a Frisco (Texas) Police officer was shot during an arrest attempt by a murder suspect peering out from a window in an apartment. The apartment building is across the street from the federal courthouse, and when Marshals Service employees heard the gunfire, they leapt into action. Two deputies aided the fallen officer in the street while other deputies and contract officers directed traffic, established a perimeter, relocated courthouse personnel and responded to more than 100 phone calls.

Distinguished District Awards

The **Distinguished District Awards** offer the opportunity to honor those Marshals Service districts that have performed at the highest levels of success during the past year. An award is presented to the outstanding large, medium and small district, with size distinctions based on the number of employees.

Small District

New Hampshire had many highlights in fiscal 2004. The district continued the success of its New Hampshire Joint Fugitive Task Force while also managing a 29 percent increase in prisoner population and clearing more than 90 percent of its Class 1 warrants. The district also managed \$6.2 million in forfeited assets — a figure that has grown 80 percent in two years. New Hampshire reaches out to many law enforcement and government partners to meet the Marshals Service's many goals.

Medium District

Northern Indiana stays busy. In addition to their regular duties, district deputies staffed the satellite office of the Great Lakes Regional Fugitive Task

Force, participating in 700 arrests. They also helped captured two of the Marshals Service's 15 Most Wanted fugitives. The district closed 78 percent of its Class 1 and 2 warrants while also handling security for several high-profile and multi-defendant court cases.

Large District

Nevada met or exceeded all its mission requirements with minimal staffing. The district produced 248 percent more prisoners and closed 48 percent more Class 1 warrant cases in fiscal 2004 as compared to fiscal 2001. The Marshals Service-led Nevada Fugitive Investigation Strike Team is routinely in the agency's top 20 for fugitive apprehensions. Nevada is also aggressive in its public affairs efforts, routinely garnering positive exposure in the media.

Wreath laying ushers in 2005 Police Week

Five names from Marshals Service history have been added to the wall at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C. In a Police Week ceremony on May 16, current marshals and deputy marshals laid commemorative wreaths atop the wall to officially honor the ultimate sacrifice made by the following men:

- Deputy Benjamin Dixon [Northern Georgia; shot in 1919 while trying to arrest deserter George Crawley];
- Special Deputies William Brady and George Hindman [New Mexico Territory; ambushed in 1878 by Billy the Kid and others]; and
- Deputy William Corbin and posseman Christopher Corbin [South Carolina; killed in 1909 while trying to arrest a man for shooting a mailbox].



Supervisory Inspector James Alandydy, Operations Support Division, salutes the U.S. flag carried by the Marshals Service Color Guard.



William Elrod Jr., left, and William Elrod Sr. — descendants of Deputy William Corbin — proudly hold their Marshals Service flags after the ceremony.

*“It’s an honor to join you today on this holy ground.”
— Deputy Attorney General James Comey*



Former Director Reyna bonds with Will Little, 11, great-great-grandson of Deputy William Corbin.

“There is no agency in this country with a richer history than the U.S. Marshals Service. We owe you a great deal of gratitude. God bless all of you day-in and day-out for what you do to keep our nation safe.”

*— Craig Floyd,
executive director, National
Law Enforcement Officers
Memorial Fund*



Deputy Paul Wise lays a wreath to honor Deputy William Corbin, who was shot at pointblank range while serving an arrest warrant in South Carolina.

Wreath laying



Visitors are drawn to personal mementoes placed on the wall as well as the actual names that are inscribed there.



Several U.S. marshals were on hand for the ceremony.



Marshals Service Color Guard members stand behind the agency's five ceremonial wreaths. The Color Guard members are [left to right]: Darrell White, senior inspector, Investigative Services Division; Andrew Smith, senior inspector, Operations Support Division; Paul Wise, deputy marshal, Superior Court; John Waters, deputy marshal, Superior Court; and James Alandydy, supervisory inspector, Operations Support Division.



Inspector Ray Wasson, Witness Security and Prisoner Operations Division, performed "Amazing Grace."



Superior Court Deputy Doug Wilson's badge honors the fallen.

*"We are here to honor their sacrifices."
— Former Director Reyna*

Coming up in the next issue ...

America's Star brings comfort, enforcement presence to the Gulf

Special Operations Group (SOG) Deputies Ken Bohac and Mark Walker search for survivors in New Orleans' Ninth Ward.



Carol Haynes/JPATS

JPATS' Aviation Enforcement Officer (AEO) Jerry Bewley operates a baggage conveyor loaded with cases of water on the tarmac of the Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport.

AEO Kenny Brown checks seatbelts while Aviation Security Officer Sandy Hernandez [in hat] comforts evacuees on a JPATS flight from New Orleans to Fort Smith, Ark.



Michael Roppoli/JPATS

SOG bolsters Iraqi court security



SOG Supervisory Deputy Greg Ray [left, wearing helmet] and a U.S. Army military police officer [right, with helmet] train Iraqi marshals outside of a courthouse in Najaf, Iraq. Ray said these Iraqi law enforcement officers perform many of the same duties as deputy U.S. marshals.



The new Iraqi flag.



Iraqi marshals unload a box of tactical supplies that SOG provided. The marshals will use the equipment to perform their three main duties — protecting the judges, protecting the courts and protecting the prison system.